National Family Benefit Scheme in Orissa

850. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre has agreed to provide Rs. 50 crore under the National Family Benefit Scheme to Orissa to clear the backlog and also enhanced funding of Rs. 13 crores per annum under this scheme;

(b) so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the action plan of the Centre for urgent release of these funds to held the State to clear around 50,000 pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) As per guidelines of National Social Assistance Programme and Annapurana for release of funds, combined allocation of the three Schemes namely National Old Age Pension (NOAP), National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) and Annapurna is being made by Planning Commission and the Ministry of Rural Development and funds is released by Ministry of Finance on the recommendation of this Ministry. Against the allocation of Rs. 5899.77 lakh during 2005-06 Rs. 17021.70 lakh has been allocated for the year 2006-07 and an amount of Rs. 7540.51 lakh upto November, 2006 has already been released by Ministry of Finance to Orissa. As per guidelines the State Government have been given flexibility to allocate funds among the three schemes as per their requirement. Hence with the enhanced allocation, the State Government of Orissa can not only enhance its funding of National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) but also can clear the backlog under the NFBS.

Special grant for Orissa under NREGP

851. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Orissa has asked for a special grant of